SEP 0 6 2001

Docket No.: 210847US0X

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

Katsuji WATANABE, et al.

: ATTN: BOX SEQUENCE

SERIAL NO: 09/900,876

FILED: JULY 10, 2001

FOR: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR SEARCHING FOR RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN

BASE SEQUENCES IN GENES

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND STATEMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

In response to the Office Communication mailed July 30, 2001, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as shown in the marked-up copy to read as follows:

Page 19, line 24 to page 20, line 12, please replace the paragraph with the following paragraph:

K

--At first, the primer data, which includes information on the base sequences, the names, and the allowance limits for mismatch of predetermined forward primer and reverse primer, are input and registered in the primer database. The folder having the names of both primers, in which the post-amplification base sequence is saved, is automatically formed